

Message Text

SECRET

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17

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 MC-01 AID-05 IGA-01 EB-07 OMB-01

DODE-00 L-02 /059 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - FJTATU:MFG

APPROVED BY EA/TB - GBROBERTS

EA/IMS - PCGILL (DRAFT)

EA/TB - CLSTERMER (DRAFT)

----- 068080

R 032219Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

S E C R E T STATE 265352

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, TH, SN

SUBJECT: PROPOSED GOS SALE OF M-16 RIFLES TO THAILAND

REF: RANGOON 3314 (NOTAL)

1. RTG HAS ASKED GOS TO SELL 25,000 SINGAPORE MANUFACTURED M-16 RIFLES FOR USE OF THAI POLICE. UNDER TERMS OF CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH COLT, GOS NOTIFIED AMBASSADOR CRONK OCT 31.

2. STATE OF PLAY AT THIS STAGE IS THAT COLT IS SEEKING TO RESOLVE CERTAIN PRIOR EXISTING ROYALTY PROBLEMS WITH GOS BEFORE IT WILL APPROVE PROPOSED SALE. UNDER MUNITIONS CONTROL REGULATIONS COLT MUST THEN SUBMIT A FORMAL REQUEST TO DEPT. USG IS NOT PREPARED TO ACT UNTIL SUCH FORMAL REQUEST IS RECEIVED FROM COLT.

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3. WE REMAIN CONCERNED THAT A SALE OF SUCH A LARGE NUMBER OF RIFLES MIGHT ATTRACT CRITICISM FROM CONGRESS AND ORGANIZED LABOR.

4. WE ARE SYMPATHETIC TO YOUR CONCERN OVER GUB SENSITIVITIES IN VIEW OF POTENTIAL FOR SMUGGLING ARMS INTO BURMA FROM THAILAND. HOWEVER, FACT REMAINS THAT THAI POLICE

HAVE HAD THE FUNDS AND HAVE BEEN IN THE MARKET FOR SOME TIME (BANGKOK 9808 NOTAL) AND IF UNABLE TO PROCURE THROUGH SINGAPORE-COLT CONNECTION WILL LIKELY TURN ELSEWHERE.

5. INFO ADDRESSEES: PLEASE REPEAT FUTURE TRAFFIC THIS SUBJECT TO RANGOON. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SMALL ARMS, MILITARY SALES, POLICE FORCES, ARMS SMUGGLING, MUNITIONS CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE265352
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FJTATU:MFG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740351-0219
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741263/aaaacceq.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: RANGOON 3314 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED GOS SALE OF M-16 RIFLES TO THAILAND
TAGS: MILI, TH, SN, COLT INDUSTRIES
To: RANGOON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005